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tenberg a special course in the history of chemistry, and at Tübingen, Bonn, Vienna and Turin, courses in the history of medicine. At Vienna, too, Dr. Mach gave a course on the history of the mechanical theory of heat.

- (28) *Il Principio dei Lavori Virtuali da Aristotele a Erone d'Alessandria.* Nota del DOTT. GIOVANNI VAILATI. Torino, 1897, 25 pp. 8vo.

This reprint from the "Proceedings of the Royal Academy of Turin" sketches briefly the history of the principle of energy from Aristotle down to Hero of Alexandria—the mechanical questions of the former and the elevator of the latter being treated in some detail.

- (29) *Il Tempo di Reazione semplice studiato in rapporto colla curva plethysmografica cerebrale.* PROF. M. L. PATRIZI. Reggio-Emilia, 1897, 15 pp. 8vo.

This article, reprinted from the *Rivista Sperimentale di Freniatria*, treats of simple reaction time in relation to the cerebral plethysmographic curve. The subject was Emanuele Favre, a boy of 13, a breach in whose cranium made such observations possible. The medium of 126 reactions for stimuli (auditory) when there was great cerebral volume was  $332.5\sigma$ , when less (116 reactions),  $345\sigma$ . The author concludes that (1) the oscillations of the specific activity of the cerebral cells and that of the circulation in the brain follow each its own course; (2) the strength of attention manifests itself with a greater rapidity of reaction times, and with a greater regularity of the psychometric curve, together with minor inequalities in the plethysmographic curve of the brain.

- (30) *I Reflexi Vascolari nelle Membra e nel Cervello dell'uomo per vari Stimoli e per varie condizioni fisiologiche e sperimentali.* PROF. M. L. PATRIZI. Reggio-Emilia, 1897, 85 pp. 8vo.

This detailed study, reprinted from the *Rivista Sperimentale di Freniatria*, is well furnished with curves and tables. The subjects were two boys of 13, Emanuele Favre at Turin and Edoardo Pardini at Sassari, the experiments extending over parts of two years, 1895-1896.

The author's conclusions are: (1) The vascular reflexes in man follow the fundamental laws of localization and irradiation, noted for the reflexes of relational life; (2) the localized vascular reflex takes place in less time than the radiated vascular reflex; (3) the brain exercises a clear influence on the activity of the spinal marrow, even in regard to the reflex movements of the blood vessels; (4) the time of vasal reflection in waking (for sensitive stimuli) is for the arm about 3", for the leg at about 5"; (5) the vascular reflex of the brain (for sensorial stimuli) has a latency not less than the brachial reflex for the same stimulus; (6) sleep induces a great retardation in the time of vasal reflection, diminishing from the brain to the arm, and inappreciable in the vessels of the lower limb; (7) the blood movements of the brain in sleep, consequent on stimuli, are, doubtless, active and autonomous reflexes; (8) the vascular reflex in the limbs for sensorial stimuli and psychic stimuli takes place in a time (4" in the arm) longer than the reflex for sensitive stimuli; (9) there is a vascular reaction for each sense stimulated; (10) some sensorial stimuli have greater capacity than others for provoking vasomotor reactions.